

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-03 USIA-04 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 OTPE-00 L-02 PM-03 NSC-07 SP-02 SS-14 DODE-00

DRC-01 PA-01 PRS-01 /060 W

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R 110707Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 836

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 5055

BUCHAREST FOR SHIRLEY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, GW, YO, US

SUBJECT: AFN INTERFERENCE WITH RADIO SARAJEVO

REF : STATE 208987 & 218493

1. DURING OFFICE CALL BY SHIRLEY AND CATHERMAN ON BERBEROVIC, PRESIDENT OF FEDERAL COMMITTEE OFR INFORMATION, BERBEROVIC BROUGHT UP SUBJECT AFN INTERFERENCE WITH RADIO SARAJEVO. AFTER EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR USG EFFORTS ALREADY MADE TO MITIGATE PROBLEM, HE STRESSED THAT RADIO SARAJEVO HAD THE "MISSION" OF INFORMING 200,000 BOSNIAN GASTARBEITER WORKING IN GERMANY ABOUT EVENTS IN THEIR HOMELAND. IT IS, THEREFORE, VERY IMPORTANT, BERBEROVIC STRESSED, THAT AFN CEASE INTERFERING WITH SARAJEVO'S SIGNAL ON 611 KHZ. IT IS IRONIC, HE ADDED THAT, AFTER YUGOSLAVIA HAD SUCCEEDED IN CONVINCING GDR TO CEASE "RADIO KOEPENICK'S" INTERFERENCE, IT WAS NOW THE AMERICAN MILITARY STATION WHICH IS CAUSING THE TROUBLE.

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2. SHIRLEY RESPONDED THAT USG DETERMINED TO

REDUCE SIGNAL STRENGTH AFN ON 611 KHZ TO A LEVEL WHERE IT WILL NO LONGER INTERFERE RADIO SARAJEVO WITHIN TERRITORIAL LIMITS OF YUGOSLAVIA. BERBEROVIC'S REFERENCE TO INTERFERENCE WITHIN FRG SIMPLY IGNORED.

3. DURING OCTOBER 9 OFFICE CALL ON BOSNIA-HERCEGOVINA SECRETARY OF INFORMATION ZIVKO BABIC, CATHERMAN RESTATED TALKING POINTS STATE 208987. BABIC EXPRESSED GRATITUDE SERIOUS USG EFFORTS MADE THUS FAR, STATING THAT AFN INTERFERENCE OF B-H NATIONAL RADIO STATION IMPINGING ON "OUR NATIONAL INTERESTS." SAYING MATTER SOON TO BE BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, BABIC SAID 611 KHZ WAS FREQUENCY ASSIGNED RADIO SARAJEVO, WHICH WISHES TO USE IT FOR BROADCASTS TO YUGOSLAV GASTARBEITER IN FRG. HE STRESSED EMOTIONALLY THAT THIS IS B-H "NATIONAL RIGHT".

4. SHIRLEY, REITERATING USG DETERMINATION TO ELIMINATE AFN INTERFERENCE RADIO SARAJEVO SIGNAL WITHIN YUGOSLAVIA, SUGGESTED THAT THIS QUESTION NOW BE REFERRED TO TECHNICIANS FOR RESOLUTION. HE SUGGESTED THAT NOW WAS NOT THE TIME TO DELVE INTO ANY OTHER QUESTIONS REGARDING AFN AND RADIO SARAJEVO, AND BABIC SEEMED TO ACCEPT THIS. (INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH, DEPUTY SARAJEVO MAYOR JANCIC, DURING OFFICE CALL BY SHIRLEY AND CATHERMAN, MADE ESSENTIALLY SAME PITCH AS BABIC ABOUT NECESSITY OF RADIO SARAJEVO REACHING BOSNIAN GASTARBEITER IN FRG).

5. EMBASSY ON OCTOBER 9 CONTACTED FEDERAL-LEVEL TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION AUTHORITIES CONCERNING THIS QUESTION. PERSONS AUTHORIZED TO DEAL WITH SUBJECT, LUBOMIR DUBOVIC AND ENGINEER REJC, CURRENTLY IN GENEVA ATTENDING IBU MEETING, AND WILL BE AVAILABLE DISCUSS AFN POWER REDUCTION TESTS WITH EMBASSY ON/ABOUT OCTOBER 28.

TOON
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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 11 OCT 1974
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